

# Never Too Early To Start

You will never forget the day he fought his way into the world. A curled-up, wailing bundle of joy that represents hope for the future. He has got his mother's dreamy eyes and his father's masculine chin. He embodies a dream ready to be unfold - but he needs your help to make it happen. And we know there is nothing you would not do for your precious child.

So you taught him how to walk, read and write. You cherished every moment with him and celebrated every milestone. You showed him what it means to be a man and to find his place in the world. But sometimes, the world is not as straightforward as it should be.

As your child navigates the world of primary school education, he will come face to face with many challenges for the first time. He will meet many different kinds of people and be confronted with choices and decisions. As someone who has been his closest companion during his early growing years, he looks to you as his role model. This is the time for you to consider educating him about drugs and the dangers they pose to him as an individual.

Here are three tips on how you can educate your child on drugs.



## Encourage Conversation

The most important thing to do would be to ensure your child is comfortable talking and sharing his or her life with you. Remember to listen to what your child has to say - regarding his or her feelings, friends and activities - rather than imposing your views all the time.



## Do Your Research

Make sure you educate yourself before attempting to teach your child about drugs. Know exactly what you are talking about, because if you communicate the wrong information - and your child finds out - he or she may be less likely to trust you in the future. There is a lot of information out there on the Internet, so invest some time into learning about these drugs and the dangers they pose. Determine the content that is appropriate for his or her age, and think about how you can simplify and deliver the information in ways which your child can easily understand.



## Seize Opportunities

Use every opportunity you can to weave in a message about drugs and the dangers they pose to your child. For example, you can initiate a conversation on the topic whenever you come across a drug-related article on the magazine or a variety programme.